Rigs in operation for exploration of Gas and oil in Tripura

540. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NA TURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of rigs which are in operation for exploration of oil and natural gas in Tripura;

(b) the names of those places where these rigs have been deployed; and

(c) the results achieved so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQ ALAM); (a) and (b) Seven rigs have been deployed in Tripura; two rigs each at Bara-mura, Rokhia and Agartala Dome and one Tig at Tichna.

(c) In Tripura, ONGC have so far drilled 26 wells, out of which gas hus been found in 15 wells$_s$ in 4 prospects namely, Baramura, Rokhia, Gojalia and Agartala Dome.

Setting up institute of petroleum safety and environmental management

541. SHRI NARAYAN KAR; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATU RAL GAS be$_e$ pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1607 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd Novem ber, 1987 and state;

(a) whether any institute has so far been established; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be set up and where?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN 'I HE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQ ALAM);

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Institute is likely to be set up by 1992 at Goa.

Opening of new post offices

542. SHRI NARAYAN KAR; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) what is the statewise number of post offices opened in the country during 1987; and

(b) what is the statewise number of post offices proposed to be opened during 1988-89 and the details regarding their locations?

. THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE); (a) The required information is furnished in the enclosed statement *(See* below).

(b) The number of post offices to be opened during 1988-89 has not yet been finalised.

Statement

Circle-wise number of post offices sanctioned during 1987-88

	Circles	Extra Departmental Post offices	Departmental Post offices
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	
2.	Bihar....	128	
3.	Delhi....		2
4.	Gujarat..	3	
5	Haryana....	4	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	8	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	1
8.	Kerala....	37	
9.	Kernataka	7	

1	2	3	4
10.	Madhya Pradesh	144	
11.	Maharashtra	29	1
12.	North Eastern. ...	43	
13.	Orissa	14	1
14.	Punjab	3	
15.	Rajasthan. ..	31	
16.	Tamil Nadu	30	
17.	UttarPradesh.	379	2
18.	West Bengal	no	
		980	8

NOTE: Some of the post offices referred to above have already been opened. Others are expected to be opened before 31-3-1988.

Payment of D. A. to Public Sector Employees

543. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) the dearness allowance and its slabs as admissible to various categories of offi cers in the more important Public undertak ings including ONGC, Indian Oil, SAIL, NTPC, BHEL, STC, 'etc.; and

(b) the reasons for not giving equal D. A. to employees of all profit making Pubic Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEV-ELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Dearness Allowance in these major enterprises is not paid on slab basis but is determined on quarterly basis with reference to the quarterly average of AICPI. The Quantum of the D. A. admissible to officers is uniform to all officers irrespective of their ranks within the same enterprise. It is also not dependent upon profitability or otherwise of the concerned enterprise.

Reopening of ACC Babcock Limited

544. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to reopen the ACC Babcock Limited which has two units at Shahbad in Karnataka and Durgapur in (Vest Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DE-VELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM); (a) and (b) ACC Babcock Ltd., a company in the private sector engaged in the manufacture of boilers for the power sector, filed a petition before the Bombay High Court in October, 1986 for winding up of the affairs of the com-pany. The two units of the company in West Bengal and Karnataka are lying closed since then. IDBI had prepared a package for the rehabilitation of the company. On examination, this was found to be non-bankable. IDBI has submitted